

Phase II and Phase III Project Cover Sheet

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REPORT INFORMATION:

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Phase I, II, and III Archeological Investigations at the Juvenile Justice Center, Baltimore, Maryland.
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Research Firm/Institution:

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Sites examined:

18BC131	18BC132	18BC133	18BC134	18BC135	18BC136	18BC137
NRHP Eligible: <input type="checkbox"/>	NRHP Eligible: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NRHP Eligible: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NRHP Eligible: <input type="checkbox"/>	NRHP Eligible: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NRHP Eligible: <input type="checkbox"/>	NRHP Eligible: <input type="checkbox"/>
Justification	Justification	Justification	Justification	Justification	Justification	Justification

18BC139
NRHP Eligible: ☒
[Justification](#)

Project Details:

Phase I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Project Justification:
Phase II	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	This report presents the findings of a Phase I, II, and III archaeological investigation undertaken at the site of a new Juvenile Justice Center in Baltimore, MD. The site of the (then) proposed Baltimore Juvenile Justice Center encompassed two heavily developed city blocks in Baltimore's Old Town. These investigations were required under the terms of Section 83-B, Paragraphs 6-517 and 5-618, of the Annotated Code of Maryland, and pursuant to the terms of a Memorandum of Agreement concluded between the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) and the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ).
Phase III	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

MAC Accession: 2000.022

Project Objectives:
Phase I -Verify the presence or absence of intact archeological deposits in the project area.
Phase II -Evaluate the potential eligibility of the 8 identified resources for inclusion in the Maryland and National Registers of Historic Places, utilizing the National Register Criteria for Evaluation.
Phase III -Obtain a database of cultural remains at associated with early 19th century African-American urban occupations at 18BC132. -Delineate potential ethnically-specific patterns of urban land-use and site organization over time at 18BC132. -Determine Site 18BC133's association with the Independent Gray's, a local mid 19th century Baltimore militia group. -Document and provide comparative data about the lifestyles of Anglo-American, German, Italian, and Russian populations in Baltimore at Site 18BC135. -Investigate the evolution of urban domestic landscapes at Site 18BC135. -Investigate the evolution of the urban commercial landscape at 18BC139. -Systematically sample the material culture associated with late 18th and 19th century domestic and commercial development east of the Jones Falls at 18BC139.

Research Potential:

The small size (23 artifacts), the temporally mixed nature, and relatively recent date of deposit for the assemblage from Site 18BC131 presented limited data in terms of providing important information concerning the historic development of this area. The site is not significant and no further archeological investigations are recommended.

Site 18BC132 proved to contain intact archeological features and artifact deposits. The site was a significant archeological resource for understanding the lives of Baltimore's 19th and early 20th century African-American inhabitants. Today, however, the site is the location of the Baltimore Juvenile Justice Facility and the site has been destroyed. Its remaining research potential lies in the extant collections obtained in the late 1990s.

Based on the lack of significant 19th century deposits within the privy shaft, Site 18BC133 did not retain the research potential hoped for. The site has now been completely destroyed as a result of the construction of the Baltimore Juvenile Justice Center, which now occupies the site.

The research value of 18BC134 has been impaired significantly due to 20th century disturbances. The site should not be considered a significant archeological resource and future archeological work is not recommended here.

The excavations at 18BC135 revealed numerous in-tact features, many of which were capable of addressing significant research questions related to the history of Baltimore. Site 18BC135 is now the location of the Baltimore Juvenile Justice Center. However, not all of the features identified during the work of

the late 1990s were excavated, and many may be preserved beneath the surface parking lot that was constructed for the facility. If the parking infrastructure should be expanded into a parking garage or another facility be constructed which would impact the currently capped and protected archeological deposits at 18BC135, additional work should be carried out.

The complex of archeological features within the rear yards of 907-909 Hillen Street lacked horizontal and vertical integrity, and the recent date of the associated archeological assemblages limit their research value. No further archeological work is recommended for 18BC136.

The features in both test units at 18BC137 were overlain and surrounded by a series of fill horizons that contained modern building debris and early 19th century artifacts. These features were disarticulated and did not form an identifiable, intact structural entity. While some items within the artifact assemblage may have derived from earlier occupation or use of Mechanics Court, no intact features or strata were identified. Hence, the Rice Baking Company site lacked integrity and cannot be considered a significant archeological resource.

The excavations at 18BC135 revealed numerous in-tact features, many of which were capable of addressing significant research questions related to the history of Baltimore. Though the site was clearly significant, it was largely destroyed following the 1996-1998 fieldwork. Site 18BC139 is now the location of the Baltimore Juvenile Justice Center. Avenues for future research are detailed analyses of the extensive collections from the site which document both domestic life in Baltimore and Tavern/Public House activities from at least the early 19th, if not the late 18th century.
